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CASE NO. 2001-14

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION AND OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING (LICENSE DISCIPLINE AND ADMINISTRATIVE FINE)

TO: Gary M. Brandt
2300 12<sup>th</sup> Ave S. Ste 124
Great Falls, MT 59405

#### PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

IN THE MATTER OF:

THE PROPOSED DISCIPLINARY

TREATMENT OF GARY M. BRANDT,

Respondent.

Staff of the Insurance Division of the office of the State Auditor and Commissioner of Insurance of the state of Montana (Commissioner), pursuant to the authority of the Insurance Code of Montana, Section 33-1-101, et seq., Montana Code Annotated (1999) (MCA), is proposing to the Commissioner that he take disciplinary action against the entities named above for violations of the Montana Code. The Commissioner has authority to take such action under the provisions of Sections 33-1-317, 33-17-411, 33-17-1001, and 33-17-1002, MCA.

In particular, the staff is recommending action against the insurance producer's license of Gary Brandt and that appropriate fines be imposed on Gary Brandt.

Service of process is pursuant to section 33-1-314, MCA.

There is probable cause to believe that the following facts, if true, justify and support such disciplinary treatment.

# ALLEGATIONS

- 1. Rosann Grandy of Policyholder Services received a complaint from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on September 12, 2000. He alleged that he had purchased a rental property in Great Falls, Montana in June 1999. CountryWide Home Loans (CountryWide) provided the financing. Mr Brandt showed proof of insurance at that time to CountryWide for the purchased property.
- 2. CountryWide sent a demand letter in October of 1999 asking for proof of insurance on the property.

  Dent Mr. Brandt a letter telling Brandt to send the financing company the necessary information. In November 1999, CountryWide sent the same demand letter to the once again talked with Gary Brandt about sending the necessary information.
- 4. In December 1999, CountryWide withdrew \$1100 out of secret account for insurance, even though had paid premium to Mr. Brandt for the same coverage.
- 5. Rosann Grandy (Grandy) of Policyholder Services sent a letter to Mr. Brandt asking for insurance information regarding on September 14, 2000.
- 6. On September 21, 2000, Grandy spoke with Brandt by phone about the \_\_\_\_\_matter.

- 7. On September 22, 2000, Grandy spoke with Brandt by phone about the matter.
- 8. On or about September 23, 2000, Insurance Investigator Forsman hand delivered the information to Mr. Brandt in Great Falls, MT.
  - 9. On December 21, 2000, Grandy spoke with Brandt by phone.
- 10. On December 28, 2000, Grandy spoke with Brandt by phone.
- 11. Even after these numerous contacts, Gary Brandt has failed to provide the requested information to the Commissioner of Insurance.
- 12. Gary Brandt is an insurance producer licensed by the state of Montana.

#### CONCLUSIONS

Gary Brandt (Respondent) violated Section 33-1-315,
 Mont. Code Ann., in failing to provide the insurance records to
 the State Auditor concerning

### STATEMENT OF RIGHTS

You are entitled to a hearing and to respond to this notice and present evidence and arguments on all issues involved in this case. You may have a formal hearing before a hearing examiner appointed by the Commissioner. This is provided for by the Montana Administrative Procedure Act, sections 2-4-601, MCA, and following, including Section 2-4-631, MCA. If you demand a hearing, you will be given notice of the time, place and the

nature of the hearing. Pursuant to section 33-1-701(2), the hearing shall be held within 30 days after receipt of the demand by the commissioner, unless postponed by mutual consent.

You have a right to be represented by an attorney at any and all stages of this proceeding.

If you want to resist the proposed action under the jurisdiction of the Commissioner, you must so advise him within fifteen (15) days of the date you receive this notice. You may so advise him by writing to Kevin Phillips, Insurance Attorney, State Auditor's Office, P.O. Box 4009, Helena, Montana 59604-4009. While so advising Mr. Phillips, you should make clear whether you demand a hearing, or whether you waive formal proceedings and, if so, what informal proceedings you prefer for handling this case. Pursuant to section 2-4-603(2), Mont. Code Ann., you may not request to proceed informally if the action could result in suspension, revocation or any other adverse action against a professional license.

Should you request a hearing, you have the right to be accompanied, represented, and advised by counsel. If the counsel you choose has not been admitted to practice law in the state of Montana, he or she must comply with the requirements of Application of American Smelting and Refining Co., (1973), 164 Mont. 139, 520 P.2d 103.

# CONTACT WITH INSURANCE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

If you have questions or wish to discuss this matter, please

contact Kevin Phillips, legal counsel for the State Auditor, at P.O. Box 4009, Helena, MT, 59604-4009, (406)444-3496 or, within Montana, (800)332-6148. If you are represented by an attorney, please make any contacts with this office through your attorney.

## POSSIBILITY OF DEFAULT

Failure to give notice or to advise of your demand for a hearing or form of informal procedure within fifteen (15) days, will result in the entry of a default order imposing the disciplinary sanctions against you and your license, all without any more notice to you, pursuant to 6.2.101, Administrative Rules of Montana and the Attorney General's Model Rule 10, 1.3.214.

DATED this 2" day of Marh, 2001.

JOHN MORRISON State Auditor and Commissioner of Insurance

By:

Kevin F. Phillips Insurance Attorney

# CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I mailed a true and correct copy of the foregoing NOTICE OF PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION AND OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING (LICENSE DISCIPLINE AND ADMINISTRATIVE FINE) to the following persons by depositing the same in the U.S. Mail, certified, return receipt requested, on this 2 day of

<u>MARCH</u>, 2001.

Gary M. Brandt 2300 12<sup>th</sup> Ave S. Ste 124 TO: Great Falls, MT 59405

Daila Sautter

State Auditor's Office

Notice of Proposed Agency Action and Opportunity for Hearing (License Discipline and Administrative Fine)

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BEFORE THE STATE AUDITOR AND COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE HELENA, MONTANA

IN THE MATTER OF:

CDV 2001-521

THE PROPOSED DISCIPLINARY TREATMENT OF GARY M. BRANDT,

CONSENT AGREEMENT

Respondent.

TO: Kenneth Olson Attorney at Law

600 Central Plaza

Great Falls, MT 59401

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I.

The Montana Insurance Commissioner (Commissioner), pursuant to the authority of the Insurance Code of Montana, Section 33-1-101, et seq., Montana Code Annotated (1999) (MCA), determines that there is probable cause to believe that the following allegations, if true, justify and support disciplinary treatment.

# FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The facts are incorporated by reference from the State Auditor's July 10, 2001, "Commissioner's Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order."

## CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The conclusions of law are incorporated by reference from the State Auditor's July 10, 2001, "Commissioner's Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order."

Consent Agreement

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Gary M. Brandt stipulates and consents to the following:

- To pay a fine of \$400 by cashier's check;
- B. To pay restitution of \$1100 to cashier's check;
- To a one year suspension of his insurance producer's license starting July 10, 2001;
- D. Will immediately, upon signing this consent agreement, file a request for dismissal of the appeal, case number CDV 2001-521, in the First Judicial Court, Lewis and Clark County along with an attached copy of this signed Consent Agreement;
- It is further understood that this Consent Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties, there being no other promises or agreements, either express or implied.

III.

Pursuant to the stipulation and consent of Gary M. Brandt, the Commissioner, under authority of the Insurance Code of Montana and Section 2-4-603, MCA, hereby agrees that if the terms and conditions of this Consent Agreement are fully met, he will not enforce the "Commissioner's Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order dated July 10, 2001. In consideration for the Commissioner not enforcing the July 10, 2001 Order, Gary M. Brandt fully and forever releases and discharges the Office of the State Auditor, the elected State Auditor and all State Auditor employees from any and all actions, claims, causes of action, demands, or expenses for damages or injuries, whether

1	asserted or unasserted, known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen,
2	arising out of the above entitled administrative action.
3	DATED this 17th day of Utober, 2001.
4	RESPONDENT
5	By:
6	Its:
7	Subscribed and Sworn to before me this 17 day of 1000 2001.
8	1. [ ]
9	Notary Public for the
10	State of Montana (SEAL) Residing at (AUAT AUIS, MT
11	My commission expires $\frac{70-79-03}{100}$
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13	JOHN MORRISON State Auditor and
14	Commissioner of Insurance
15	By: Full- & Fohn K. Kurtz
16	By: Kevin Phillips
17	Staff Attorney
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